

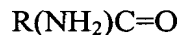
### CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend claims 6 and 15, add new claims 20-24, and cancel claims 1-5 and 9-12. A complete listing of the claims, including their current status, is set forth below.

**1-5 (cancelled)**

6. **(Currently amended)** A method that allows a probe and target to specifically hybridize at a temperature lower than their standard hybridization temperature, comprising:

(a) heating the probe and target in the presence of a chemical component of the formula:



where R is an amino or a methyl group; and

(b) allowing the probe and target to hybridize,  
wherein said probe is an oligonucleotide probe covalently linked ~~attached to the~~ surface of a microarray ~~glass substrate~~.

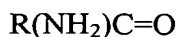
7. **(Previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 6, wherein said probe and target are heated to a temperature that is lower than their standard hybridization temperature.

8. **(Previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 6, further comprising adding said chemical compound to a solution prior to heating step (a).

**9-14. (cancelled)**

15. **(Previously presented)** A method that allows a probe on a micro array surface to specifically hybridize to a target at a temperature lower than their standard hybridization temperature, comprising:

(a) heating the probe and target in the presence of a chemical component of the formula:



where R is an amino or a methyl group; and

- (b) allowing the probe and target to hybridize,  
wherein said probe is an oligonucleotide probe ~~attached~~ **covalently linked** to the  
surface of a ~~glass-microarray-substrate~~.
16. **(Previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 15, wherein said probe and target  
are heated to a temperature that is lower than their standard hybridization temperature.
17. **(Previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 15, further comprising adding said  
chemical compound to a solution prior to heating step (a).
18. **(Previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 6, wherein said chemical  
component is urea.
19. **(Previously presented)** A method that allows a probe and target to hybridize at a  
temperature lower than their standard hybridization temperature, comprising:  
(a) heating the probe and target in the presence of acetamide; and  
(b) allowing the probe and target to hybridize,  
wherein said probe is an oligonucleotide probe attached to the surface of a glass  
substrate.
20. **(New)** A method for detecting nucleic acids using a microarray, comprising:  
contacting a sample comprising labeled nucleic acids with an addressable microarray  
of oligonucleotide probes covalently linked to a surface of a glass substrate in a hybridization  
buffer comprising urea; and  
detecting labeled nucleic acids that specifically hybridize to said oligonucleotide  
probes.
21. **(New)** The method of claim 20, wherein said contacting is done at a hybridization  
temperature of about 50°C.
22. **(New)** The method of claim 20, wherein urea is present in said hybridization buffer at  
a concentration of about 5M.

23. **(New)** The method of claim 20, wherein urea is present in said hybridization buffer at a concentration of about 4M.

24. **(New)** The method of claim 20, wherein said oligonucleotides are 60-mer oligonucleotides.